



NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEBRASKA
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
2433 N.W. 24th St., Lincoln, NE 68524-1801

CONTACT:
Taylor Gage, 402-471-1970, taylor.gage@nebraska.gov
Jodie Fawl, (402) 471-7428; (402) 326-3179
jodie.fawl@nebraska.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 18, 2015, 2:30 p.m. CDT

State Requests FEMA Public Damage Assessment

Lincoln, Neb. — The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has requested that the Federal Emergency Management Agency work with NEMA and local emergency managers to conduct joint damage assessments in 10 southeast Nebraska Counties.

The request is being made following a severe storm system that struck the eastern portion of the state producing severe storms including heavy rains, large hail damaging wind, flooding and tornadoes from May 3 to May 11. The storm damaged and destroyed public power systems and public and private infrastructure.

“Preliminary damage assessments are designed to gather general information about the disaster’s impacts,” said NEMA assistant director Bryan Tuma. “We will have teams in the affected counties during the week starting May 25. The assessments will allow state officials to determine whether disaster recovery is within the state’s capabilities or whether federal disaster assistance may be needed.”

The counties requested for the public assistance public damage assessment include: Adams, Cass, Gage, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nuckolls, Otoe, Saline, Saunders and Thayer Counties.

“In addition to requesting a public assistance damage assessment, we are working to identify any available assistance options for individuals,” said Tuma. “We want to especially thank the many volunteer and faith-based organizations who have responded to the affected areas and who have graciously provided many forms of assistance to individuals and families impacted by the storms.”

Last week, the state requested that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) conduct damage assessments for homes and businesses in Jefferson, Saline and Thayer counties. Nebraska will assist the SBA with property damage assessments this week to determine if the identified counties will qualify.

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